

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus are taught for cutting a sheet material comprising the steps of engaging a first side of the laminated web structure with a crack initiator having a high rake angle, the crack initiator extending from a first cutter base having a low rake angle; simultaneously engaging a second side of the laminated web structure with a second cutter; generating a first crack in the first side of the laminated web structure with the crack initiator; generating a second crack in the second side of the laminated web structure with the second cutter; and propagating the first crack and the second crack to intersect. The crack initiator extends from a cutter base to a height of at least 5 μm . The high rake angle of the crack initiator is in the range of from about 30° to about 70°. The cutter base has a low rake angle that is at least about 15° less than the high rake angle of the crack initiator.

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